

# MEDIA FAIRNESS CAUCUS

## *A Look at Media Bias*

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## Networks Ignore Threat to Press Freedom

From the *Media Research Center*...

“Despite the disturbing news last Wednesday that the **Federal Communications Commission** had developed a controversial plan to investigate television and radio newsrooms across the country, the broadcast networks of NBC, ABC, and CBS completely ignored the potential threat to press freedom [on their Thursday telecasts]...

American University professor John Watson observed, ‘Whenever I hear of the government going into a newsroom...I become frightened. Because **the government should not, as a general rule, be any part of journalism.**’” [The FCC later announced that it is putting the controversial study on hold].

## The Press is Addicted to Pres. Obama

From *TruthRevolt*...

“*TruthRevolt* editor-in-chief Ben Shapiro...[appeared on Fox News] to debate the FCC’s new initiative to embed monitors in newsrooms to oversee the fairness of news coverage...

[When asked why the administration thinks they could get away with this], Shapiro responded, ‘Why not? **The administration has gotten away with everything else...**The truth is that this administration has been harder on the press than any administration in recent memory. And the press itself knows that. **It’s just that the press itself is so addicted to Barack Obama and his agenda that they’re basically willing to cover for violations of press freedom that occur on a daily basis from this administration.**’”

## Cable Merger Could Cause More Media Bias

From *Accuracy in Media*...

“Comcast, which owns NBC and MSNBC, has long since thrown in politically with the Obama administration and the Democratic Party...Now, add to that Time Warner, home to shows such as Real Time with Bill Maher on HBO [and networks like CNN]...[With the potential merger of these two cable conglomerates], the three networks [CNN, MSNBC and NBC]...would have the same corporate owner, and their combined weight and influence could easily sway [public opinion]...

If the past is a good indicator, this new conglomerate would certainly continue to ignore the many Obama administration scandals...**In that regard, this merger is a threat to the purpose of news networks: to provide unbiased information so that people have enough information to make informed decisions, and to fairly represent two or more sides of an issue, rather than be in the service of one particular political party’s agenda.**”

## ‘This is Outrage Disguised as a Study’

In regards to the FCC plan to investigate newsrooms, Charles Krauthammer stated “as if the IRS, the EPA and NRLB have not done enough damage, **the FCC now has to trample on what rights are remaining. This is an outrage disguised as a study.** The FCC regulates the media and it has the power to remove your license...This is not funny.”

Distributed by Congressman Lamar Smith. For regular e-mail updates, please visit <http://lamarsmith.house.gov>